REMARKS

The examiner is thanked for considering the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on May 1, 2006 and July 17, 2006, and for allowing Claims 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, and 23-24.

Claims 16-20 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Hence, Claims 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, 16-20, and 23-24 are pending in the application.

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 5-7, 9-10, 12, 14, and 23-24 stand allowed.

Claims 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action indicated that Claims 16-20 would also be allowed subject to overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

II. ISSUED NOT RELATED TO THE CITED ART

A. Amendments to the Specification

The specification is amended herein to align the description of tangible storage media with the interpretation of tangible medium set forth by the USPTO. Since the specification as filed already described a wide variety of computer-readable media, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendment to the specification does not introduce new matter.

B. Rejection of Claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101

As amended herein, Claims 16-20 are directed to a computer-readable <u>tangible</u> storage medium, which is clearly an article of manufacture. Thus, Claims 16-20 are directed to statutory subject matter. For this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is respectfully requested.

The amendments to Claims 16-20 place these claims in condition for allowance. Further, since all other claims stand allowed, entry of the amendment to Claims 16-20 is warranted since it would place the present application in condition for allowance.

III. COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The present Office Action includes an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance ("Statement"). Applicants disagree with the Statement to the extent that any reasons given therein comprise anything other than a restatement of the claims as allowed.

IV. CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed. Further, for the reasons set forth above, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

A petition for extension of time, to the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, is hereby made. If applicable, a law firms check for the petition for extension of time fee is enclosed herewith. If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout

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the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,
HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: January 17, 2007

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